



Mary Riley Styles Public Library

Annual Report FY2011



For the **fourth year in a row**, the *Library Journal's* new national ranking of public libraries identified the **Mary Riley Styles Public Library as one of the top 262 libraries in the nation, out of 7,513 that were rated.** The library received a rating of 4 out of 5 stars and only two other Virginia libraries made the list: Williamsburg Public Library and Central Rappahannock Public Library System. The rating is determined by analyzing statistics that describe library service outputs, such as number of visits by patrons annually, circulation, public internet computer usage, and program attendance. Statistics in this report (on the back page) will show just how busy the library has been this past year.

► Reaching Out

- 1,129 children registered for our annual Summer Reading Program—an all time record!
- 161 school visits (up from 67 the previous year) were made to City schools during the year, and staff spoke with 3,674 children about the library and its programs.
- A teen poetry contest in April had 38 entries. There are some very talented poets in our community.
- A student art show was co-hosted with Thomas Jefferson Elementary School...over 300 students and parents attended (in a single evening!).
- Almost 20,000 children attended programs in the Children's Department during the year.
- The "Armchair Travel" video program continued at the Senior Center on the 4th Friday of each month.
- A successful Food for Fines campaign collected 923 items, which were donated to the Falls Church Community Service Council, Inc.
- Library staff hosted a booth at both the Memorial Day and Fall Festival. The Rolling Readers Precision Drill Team "marched" again in the Memorial Day Parade and won the "Best Overall Marching Unit."
- Free Internet tutoring helped many learn new skills.
- Three book groups continued lively discussions on books by a variety of authors.
- The Library helped celebrate the Tinner Hill Blues Festival by hosting a poet who read blues poems.

► Other Noteworthy News

- The Library Foundation bought a second self-checkout unit for patrons to use as well as a new digital microfilm/fiche reader printer.

- Upgraded bandwidth was installed for the public and staff computers.
- Due to budget reductions, the library lost four operating hours each week. It was closed on Sundays for the year.
- The Library's webpage was incorporated into the City's and was totally redesigned with a new web address of www.fallschurchva.gov/library.
- We held the first-ever rock concert in the library to the tunes of Fight the Bear and Eileen Graham and Noble Air.
- Wii day game days started at the library along with other family oriented arts and crafts programs, game days with Bingo and board games, and a redesigned Teen Summer Reading Program that had 108 participants.

► Statistical Information

	FY10	FY11	Change
Items Borrowed	452,498	426,272	-5.8%
Size of Collection	143,365*	142,728	-.4%
New Library Cards Issued	3,659	3,132	-14.4%
Registered Borrowers (TOTAL)	25,263	28,395	+12.4%
■ City Residents	9,849	10,718	+8.8%
■ Non-City Residents	15,414	17,677	+14.7%
Library Visits by Patrons	232,379	283,773	+22.1%
Web Site Visits	182,373	154,284	-15.4%
Reserves Placed by Patrons	14,089	18,533	+31.5%
Overdue Notices Sent (TOTAL)	31,887	151,408	+374.8%
■ By e-mail	30,086	60,144	+99.9%
■ By Post	1,801**	0	-100%
■ Reminder Notices	64,746	91,264	+40.9%
Program Attendance (TOTAL)	11,710	20,345	+73.7%
■ Children's Programs	11,219***	19,831	+76.8%
■ Adult Programs	491	514	+4.9%
Questions Answered	77,824	50,307	-35.4%
Materials Cataloged	13,590	14,400	+6%
Volunteer Hours Donated	3,119	3,087	-1%
Revenue (TOTAL)	\$1,851,151	\$1,814,571	-2%
■ City	\$1,667,016	\$1,608,462	-3.5%
■ State	\$159,838	\$140,789	-11.6%
■ Other (book sale and memorial)	\$24,297	\$65,320	+168%

*All electronic books were deleted as outdated during the change from the old integrated library system to the new one, thus the steep decline in the collection numbers—a one-time deletion.

** The library began sending only e-mail notices in January 2010. In FY11, all notices were sent electronically.

***Due to reduced staff one story hour per week was eliminated during the year reducing attendance and number of programs presented for the year. In FY11, the children's area was fully staffed and did far more programming.

► Library Board of Trustees

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